

## May 16 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

As I'm writing this I'm reflecting on the fantastic convention which our chapter co-sponsored in **Williamsburg, *Legends and Legacies***. It was one of the best conventions



**Don Hyatt** in discussion with "**John Bartram**" as channeled by **Kirk Brown**

I can state with certainty that the success of the convention was directly related to the hard work of many of our chapter members (in addition to folks from the other sponsoring chapters). At the risk of forgetting someone, I'd like to recognize those who helped out. I'd like to thank **Don Hyatt**, my co-chair, who was the usual **Don Hyatt**...working countless hours, driving hundreds of miles and applying his many talents in making tremendous contributions in so many areas and **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck** for the endless hours spent developing the system to barcode and label all of the plants, entering data and photos in the database as well as propagating a large number of the plants we sold. With **Paul's** barcoding system we were able to process a large number of sales quickly. **Kathy Andrews** applied her database and mail merge skills to create an attractive and useful badge for our members. **Susan Bauer** stuffed convention bags, coordinated the lunch service on the bus tours (both assisted by new chapter member **Barbara Hambrook**) as well as serving as a cashier at the plant sale. **Joanne** and **Dan Neckel** also

worked countless hours, driving hundreds of miles and applying his many talents in making tremendous contributions in so many areas and **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck** for the endless hours spent developing the system to barcode and label all of the plants, entering data and photos in the



**Susan Bauer** scans a plant barcode. Also in the photo are members **Sam Burd**, **Frank Duff**, **Dan Krabill** and **David Taylor**

**Landon Davis** coordinated the efforts at **Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden** as well as helping at the convention site. **John** and **Barbara Kirkwood**, **Nick** and **Jackie Ferriter**, **Dave** and **Leslie Nanney**, **Debby Sauer**, **Bill Bedwell**, **David Taylor** and former member **Phyllis Rittman** all served as bus captains. **Lars Larson** and **Barry Sperling** served as jacks of all trades and were of tremendous support to me and others in so many areas. All of the folks mentioned, as well as **David** and **Patsy Meadows**, **Pati Gabaldoni** and **Paul Davis**, **Bob** and **Eve Harrison**, **Diane Marcus**, **Sam** and **Ginger Burd**, **Lee** and **Carole McElvain** and associate members **Mike** and **Debbie White** helped in many ways setting up and tearing down the plant sale room as well as other support.

**Dave** and **Virginia Banks** ran the registration process (and **Dave** did the website) and were helped onsite by **Diane** and **Budne Reinke** who also assisted in a number of other areas. The **Reinkes** were joined by **Irene Aslan**, the **Meadows** and **Nanneys** in preparing plants for sale (e.g., barcode tagging and removing debris).

**Richard** and **Ginny Mohr** organized and ran the **Photography Contest**.

Chapter members **Carolyn Beck**, **Jay Gillenwater**, **Dan Krabill**, **Ronnie Palmer**, **Larry Martin** and yours truly and associate members **Joe Coleman** and **Mike White** (**White's**

**Nursery**) propagated and/or transported plants for the sale. Cuttings were provided by **Joe Klimavicz, Bob Stewart, Sandra** and **Ken McDonald**, the **Cosbys** and the **Nanneys** (who also made multiple trips transporting plants).

**Joe Gutierrez** donated an azalea bonsai. **George McClellan, Don Hyatt, Paul** and **Carolyn Beck** provided auction plants

**David Taylor** and **Jack Fowler** staged and took care of plants in the convention area. The **Kirkwoods** and **Meadows** also took care of plants in Northern Virginia.

**Jim Trumbly** provided greeting cards with different **Satsuki** photographs for the silent auction and, joined by his wife **Denise**, flew in to the convention from California where **Jim** presented an interesting talk on **Satsuki Azaleas**.

**Elizabeth** and **Roy Cosby** opened their beautiful garden (now called the **Lewis Ginter Nature Reserve**) for a visit by convention attendees, provided plants for the sale and two of their employees, **Oscar** and **Wes** helped us move plants to the convention site.

The list above represents those chapter members or associate members who assisted in the convention. A large number of members of the other chapters also helped immeasurably (and hopefully are being recognized by their chapters). I apologize if I missed anyone and many of the chapter members mentioned helped in ways beyond which I mentioned. My intent, besides identifying them and thanking them, was to point out that this was truly a **team effort**. It was amazing to watch how well our members (and members from other chapters) worked together to get the job done. I'm proud to be associated with such a great group of people. Thank you!

**Exceptional Service Award - Dave Nanney** and I had the honor of presenting the **ASA Exceptional Service Award** to **Dan Krabill** and **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck** respectively. These awards could not have been presented to anyone more deserving. I would also like to thank **Dave Nanney** for working with **Buddy Lee** on the **ASA Awards Committee**.

I was pleased by the large number of chapter members who attended the convention. We were, by far, the largest group in attendance.

We will have a more in-depth report on the convention in the next **Azalea Clipper**, coming out in June.

### **Member Garden Tours Apr 30 – May 7**

**Barry Sperling** has opened his garden for member visits April 30 through the first week of May. If you'd like to visit, please call ahead to insure he's home (703-765-7062). His garden is located at 7732 Schelhorn Rd., Alexandria, VA 22306

**Dave** and **Leslie Nanney** have opened their garden for member visits on 7 May. They are avid azalea collectors who have about 2,500 azaleas in addition to their 1,600 minerals on display. Their home address is 8646 Tuttle Road, Springfield, Va. They will be greeting visitors from 1-5 pm on 7 May. They will be serving beer and wine as well as soft drinks and finger foods. Garden shoes are strongly recommended. For more information call (703)644-5651.

### **Green Spring Garden Sale – May 14**

Once again we will be participating in the **Green Spring Garden** plant sale on May 14<sup>th</sup>. We need folks to help us set up on 13 May and sell plants and tear down the sale on 14 May. If you are able to help, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at (703) 860-5676 or [carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com).

**Azalea Bonsai Tour at the National Arboretum – May 28** (newly scheduled)

Chapter member and Bonsai expert, **Dr. Joe Gutierrez** will be leading a tour of the **National Bonsai and Penjing Museum** at the **National Arboretum** on 28 May. **Joe** has given presentations on Azalea Bonsai to our chapter a couple of times in the last five years and is very knowledgeable on the subject. This is a rare opportunity which should not be missed. Rain dates are either 29 or 30 May as necessary. If you are interested in attending, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at (703) 860-5676 or [carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com) so that she can apprise you of any rescheduling.

The **Arboretum** is at 3501 New York Ave NE Washington, DC - with the entrance on R Street off Bladensburg Ave NE. There is ample parking just inside the gate. Attendees should meet inside the lobby of the main administration building at 10 am.

**New Members** – We recently gained a number of new members to our chapter either as members or associate members:

**Jay** and **Shirley Gillenwater** affiliated with the chapter from at-large status. Members who participated in the **Charlottesville** tour weekend in 2011 visited their beautiful garden. **Jay** is also President of the **Middle Atlantic Chapter** of the **American Rhododendron Society (ARS)**.

**Paul James** also affiliated with our chapter from at-large status. **Paul** has a beautiful garden in **Boones Mill, VA**, near **Roanoke**.

**Barbara Hambrook**, a friend of ours from **Yorktown, VA** started out by volunteering to help with stuffing the convention bags. She then volunteered to help with the bus tour lunches and the plant sales. She liked the organization and the people she met so much that she joined the society.

**Steve Wright** is a new **ASA/Northern Virginia Chapter** member from **Devon, PA**. He is also a member of the **Valley Forge Chapter** of the **ARS**.

**Lorna Hanson** recently joined the chapter and is from **Gloucester, VA**.

**Jim Trumbly**, a **Satsuki** expert from **Roseville, CA** recently affiliated with our chapter. He contributed an in-depth article on **Satsuki** to **The Azalean** in 2001 and has another one coming out in an upcoming issue.

**Kathy Schloeder** joined the chapter to attend the convention. **Kathy** is from **Alexandria, VA** and many of you may know her from the **Daylily Society**. They are normally our neighbors at the **Green Spring Garden** sale, so I encourage you to welcome her when we see them in two weeks. The **Daylily Society** will also be joining us in the fall for our sale/auction.

**Rusty Gillick** recently affiliated with our chapter. **Rusty** is from **Toms River, NJ**. I hope to stop by and see his rhododendron and azaleas on one of our trips to NJ.

**Donny Gilman** and **Jessica Teague** from **Goshen Farm** in **Gloucester, VA** also joined the chapter at our convention.

**Mary Sue Butch** also recently joined. **Mary Sue** is from Ketonah, NY.

**Robert Thau** became an Associate Member of the chapter. **Robert** is a member of the **Texas Chapter**. Many of us had a chance to meet him at the convention. He is one of the most enthusiastic azalea fans that I have ever met. He was excited about his many purchases and took a quick trip up to **Mike** and **Debbie White's** nursery in **Maryland** on his way home to **Jasper, TX**.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

Below is the current schedule for 2016. As always, events will be added (and rarely deleted) throughout the year:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
April 30 - May 8	Member Garden Tours of Sperling and Nanney Gardens	NV-ASA	See description above.
May 14	Green Spring Plant Sale	NV-ASA	<a href="#">Green Spring Gardens</a> in Alexandria, VA
May 21	<a href="#">Picnic at White's Nursery</a>	Mike and Debbie White	<a href="http://www.whites-nursery.com/">http://www.whites-nursery.com/</a>
May 28 <sup>th</sup> 10am <b>(newly scheduled)</b>	Azalea Bonsai Tour at the National Arboretum led by Dr. Joe Gutierrez	NV-ASA	3501 New York Ave NE Washington, DC. Meet in the lobby of the administration building at 10am.
July 10 1-5pm	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	<a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church</a>
September 17 1-5pm	Plant Auction and Sale	NV-ASA/Daylily Society	<a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church</a>
October 22	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
October 23 1:30 -4:30 pm	Fall Meeting with Speaker and Plant Exchange	NV-ASA	<a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church</a>
December 4 1-5pm	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	TBD

**Other Activities/Notes -**

**Virginia Garden Faire 7 May -**

**Vienna Parks and Recreation** will be holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Garden Faire on the Town Green, 144 Maple Avenue, from 9 am to 12 noon on 7 May. More information is located at their [website](#).

## **Rassawek Spring Jubilee June 4-5**

Those of you who went on the **Richmond** tours at our convention had the opportunity to visit the **Japanese Garden** of **Junko** and **Joe Liesfeld**. **Joe** asked me to make you aware of the **Rassawek Spring Jubilee** at his **Rassawek Vineyard** in **Columbia, VA**. More information is located at [www.rassawek.com](http://www.rassawek.com). It looks to me like it will be a great time!

### **Miscellaneous –**

#### **Photos for *The Azalea***

**Clipper/Facebook – Barry** is looking for pictures of your garden to share with other members on our chapter **Facebook** page and in the **Clipper**. Now is the time to show off a little. Send your pictures to **Barry** at [bsperling@cox.net](mailto:bsperling@cox.net).



**The Cosby Garden, now the Lewis Ginter Nature Reserve, in Rockville, VA**

We are also always looking for articles for the **Clipper**. They don't have to be long and can be on any azalea related subject (e.g., gardens (public or private), hybridizers, companion plants etc.). Pictures are

also always appreciated. Please consider writing an article. Contact **Barry** if you have any questions [bsperling@cox.net](mailto:bsperling@cox.net) or 703-765-7062.

**The Azalean** – The editors of **The Azalean** depend on member submissions of articles of interest to the general **ASA** membership. If you have an article to share, send it to them at [theazalean@gmail.com](mailto:theazalean@gmail.com). Articles should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents. Illustrations are highly encouraged and should be at least 4 x 6 inches at 300 dpi.

**Speakers** – We continue to strive to provide speakers on topics of interest to our members. If you have heard, or are otherwise aware of, speakers who might be of interest to our chapter, please contact **Barb Kirkwood** at [kirkwoodb@aol.com](mailto:kirkwoodb@aol.com) or 703-268-6958.

Once again, thanks to all the members who worked so hard on the 2016 Convention. You are directly responsible for its success and I am extremely grateful. I hope to see a large number of you at the **Green Spring Garden Sale**.

Rick